

credit. The child tax credit has been in place for years, and it is supposed to help offset the many expenses of raising children. This includes food, childcare, diapers, healthcare, clothing, and taxes.

But before the American Rescue Plan, it wasn't accessible to the families who needed it most because it wasn't fully refundable. Families that didn't earn enough income could not benefit.

The American Rescue Plan changed that when it enacted a much-needed expansion of the child tax credit, making it fully refundable and increasing the maximum credit from \$2,000 per child to \$3,000 per child up through age 17, and \$3,600 per child for children under age 6.

Because of the American Rescue Plan, nearly 66 million children will benefit from the child tax credit, making this the single largest contributor to reducing child poverty.

In my district, which includes the Bronx and Westchester, 124,400 children will gain from the expanded child tax credit.

The average benefit for 41,800 households in my district is \$2,800, lifting 9,200 children out of poverty and 4,700 children out of deep poverty.

This is historic, but we can't be satisfied with reducing child poverty. We need to completely end child poverty and eliminate it.

The American Families Plan would extend the child tax credit increases from the American Rescue Plan through 2025. The infrastructure we want for building back better shouldn't tolerate childhood poverty, and the American Families Plan moves us forward on that necessary path.

Before I close, I want to use my time on the House floor to share the experience of a New Yorker who needs home care services and wrote into my office. Her experience seeking care paints a very telling picture about the state of our care economy, and makes the case for the strong investments in the American Families Plan that we have heard tonight.

She shared that seniors and people with disabilities like her struggle to find the home care she needs because the job pays under \$13 an hour in most of New York State.

One week into the COVID lockdown, her home health aide contracted the virus from a relative, a nursing home worker who contracted it through their own caregiving job.

The first health aide has been unable to return to work because the virus has caused long-term complications from their immediate family members, for whom they are the primary caregiver.

Just 1 week after her first health aide contracted the virus, a second health aide fell ill.

While the second health aide did recover, the health aide's childcare provider closed permanently.

The second health aide wants to return to work, but, due to the low

wages, they are unable to afford childcare.

Not being able to find a full-time health aide to provide her care means she is unable to receive assistance with all of her needs. Some days she only gets help to eat and use the toilet once per day. She cannot shower as frequently as she would like.

She shared: "I live in constant fear that should something happen to my health aide, that my literal independence will be taken from me overnight. I don't know when this situation will improve, and I have no other resources to lean on should my situation worsen."

The solution, however, is simple. We need home care jobs to be recognized and treated as quality, dignified jobs with family-sustaining wages. If we pay home care workers a living wage, these jobs will be filled immediately because of the high demand. We need to ensure our home care jobs never become minimum wage jobs again.

I want to thank her for sharing her personal experience and allowing me to share it tonight. It goes to show how connected and interdependent we all are on one another and the care economy.

We need to meet this dire moment with a substantial, transformative investment in the care economy, and we must do that with the American Families Plan.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### BRIEF SUMMARY OF ISSUES

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under the Speaker's announced policy of January 4, 2021, the Chair recognizes the gentleman from Wisconsin (Mr. GROTHMAN) for 30 minutes.

Mr. GROTHMAN. Madam Speaker, we are back here after 3 weeks in our districts, and I think our minds should probably be on the border and the thousands of people—tens of thousands of people streaming across every month, or perhaps on the economic problems caused by higher inflation. But, instead, there was a few brief statements made by one of our prominent TV anchors that causes me to feel I have to speak tonight.

While we were gone, we celebrated both Memorial Day and the hundreds of thousands of American soldiers who have died for our freedoms. We celebrated another anniversary of D-day, the landing in Europe. And when we think about Memorial Day, we can't help but remember other names of battles during World War II: Okinawa, Iwo Jima, the Battle of the Midway, the Battle of the Bulge, as well as all the soldiers who died fighting the communists in Vietnam and Korea.

It is a time for superlatives talking about the heroic efforts of these great men and women.

Unfortunately, on a formerly major network, NBC or MSNBC, Brian Williams decided to compare or supposedly

compliment all of our brave troops by comparing them to people who fight under the most evil banner I think that has existed, or one of the two most evil banners that has existed in the last 100 years, and that is the banner of antifa.

□ 1945

Antifa is an organization. If we had their flag here before us, it is virtually identical to the flag used by the communists in the early 1920s in Nazi Germany. The socialist flag at the time, the communist flag, allied with the Soviet Union, which at the time millions of people were dying as they adjusted to life without the czar and life under communism.

The Soviet armies were soon responsible for killing millions and millions of Ukrainians as they guarded the food so the kulaks would starve to death, the communist armies that in Red China caused tens of millions of deaths, the communist armies in Cambodia, these countries with their anti-God philosophy, proud in Red China when the final Christian churches were closed.

Of all things, to compare our troops at D-day with antifa, I cannot imagine a greater insult to give these soldiers. I wish more of them were still alive so they could respond to seeing on television a TV anchor trying to compare them—these brave men to keep the world free—to compare them to antifa, a group whose flag is almost identical to the communist flag.

By the way, it is not surprising that we have a red flag for Nazi Germany and a red flag for the Soviet Union. Red at the time stood for socialism.

Our young children should be educated on the comparisons between the two. During the 1920s, there were times when both ideologies entered into joint strikes because they both wanted to get rid of what existed of a free country in Germany at the time.

We would like to hear from NBC. Shame on you, NBC, the once-proud network. Would you respond to the statements by Brian Williams comparing the men who died at D-day, the men who landed on European soil to free Europe? Will you respond to your anchor implying they were the equivalent of antifa, a group connected with communism? Shame on that once-proud number one network in America. What do you think of what you have done?

The next issue I would like to comment on that I heard about again and again when I was back is an issue that is not surprising. To a certain extent, some of the policies of the past are responsible for this, but recently, we have had a new round of checks go out, a greater increase in the money supply, both M1 and M2.

Not surprising, when the government prints money, we see an increase in the amount of gasoline, an increase in food prices led by an increase in soybeans, an increase in lumber, and massive increases in homebuilding.

I am scared to death for the younger generation as a new economic ideology seems to have taken over in which there is a feeling that you can spend yourself into prosperity. When I look at the degree to which housing costs have skyrocketed within the last year, it is perhaps not surprising, given the degree to which money is being printed. But it is going to be much more difficult for a young couple to buy that first house today compared to 12 years ago.

It is important that everybody in this Chamber sit back and question the idea that is being approved by the Federal Reserve that America can become wealthier just by printing money. America will not become wealthier by printing money. America will have inflation, and that inflation will strike hardest at commodity prices and hardest at housing.

So everybody in this Chamber, before we vote for any more spending bills, ought to look at the rather boring charts of M1 and M2 as we analyze the money supply and look at the cost of all commodities over the last year as this Chamber has decided that the way to create prosperity is to print more money.

I do feel it is also important to address one more time the crisis at the border and the variety of bad things happening because of that crisis and not caring like we did only a few months ago as to who crosses the border.

I don't think we have spent enough time addressing the drug crisis in America. It has been around so long, it becomes boring even to think about it. Except recently, we hit the point at which 90,000 Americans had died of drug overdoses in a 12-month period.

When I talk to people at the border or my local drug enforcement administration, they both agree that this is in part happening because more drugs are coming across the border. In part, it is predictable that more drugs are coming across the border because it is easier to get across the border. More people are crossing the border. But even more so, as marijuana becomes legalized in the country, it is no longer profitable to bring marijuana across the southern border.

I heard an anecdote of a significant amount of marijuana coming across the border, and the people who owned it couldn't sell it. Because the marijuana produced by the now-legalized agriculture operations in the United States—not surprisingly, because we now do genetic engineering, that sort of thing—the marijuana produced in the United States in States like Colorado and Washington is superior to the marijuana brought across the Mexican border.

Well, if the Mexican drug cartels cannot make money selling marijuana or bringing marijuana across the border, how are they going to make it up? They are going to make it up by bringing more and more dangerous drugs—meth, cocaine, heroin, but above all, fentanyl. They are going to bring more and more fentanyl across the southern border. Now, we have 90,000 deaths in this country in 1 year.

A little bit of my district touches Milwaukee County, not a huge county, by nationwide standards, about a million people. Last year, 540 people died of drug overdoses in Milwaukee County. There were about 200 murders, which is the all-time record, and everybody couldn't believe 200 murders. There were over 500 illegal overdoses.

Now, what do we do about that? Well, clearly, one of the things we have to do is we have to prevent these drugs from coming into the country in the first place. It is disappointing that we put the security of the border on the back burner and think of excuses not to deal with it.

But in addition to thinking of all the people running across the border, take a minute to think about the 90,000 people, many very young people, dying primarily of fentanyl but also other illegal drug overdoses, and ask yourself: What is this body going to do to stop it?

Of course, other problems are at the border. We have gone from checking in or touching about 17,000 people a month to 180,000 people a month. As far as got-aways, people who aren't even checked in, our Border Patrol estimates we have gone from about 6,000 this time last year to about 30,000 now—just massive increases.

I would guess between got-aways and people who are checked into the country, we are looking at 60,000 or 70,000 a month instead of under 10,000 a month at this time last year. It is truly a crisis.

Quite frankly, this body ought to be doing nothing else but dealing with that crisis until it is solved. The fact that we had under 10,000 people crossing the border only 4 or 5 months ago shows it is not something we don't know how to solve or that it is impossible to solve. It is that we are willingly allowing a massive increase across the border.

Of course, that massive increase, since the drug cartels charge people to come here, also increases the power of those drug cartels, both in the United States and their country. It, to a degree, results in separation of children from their families, as unaccompanied children come here, as well as a given number of children are probably rented by people to come here because they know supposed intact families have a better chance of being allowed in this country than single people, who are still frequently turned around.

In any event, there is a brief summary of issues. I hope I was enjoyable. And I hope NBC will let us know what they were thinking when Brian Williams decided to say that our soldiers landing on D-day were like antifa.

Madam Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

#### LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. DEFAZIO (at the request of Mr. HOYER) for today.

#### ADJOURNMENT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to section 11(b) of House Resolution 188, the House stands adjourned until 10 a.m. tomorrow for morning-hour debate and noon for legislative business.

Thereupon (at 7 o'clock and 58 minutes p.m.), under its previous order, the House adjourned until tomorrow, Wednesday, June 16, 2021, at 10 a.m. for morning-hour debate.

#### EXPENDITURE REPORTS CONCERNING OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL

Reports concerning the foreign currencies and U.S. dollars utilized for Official Foreign Travel during the first quarter of 2021, pursuant to Public Law 95-384, are as follows:

REPORT OF EXPENDITURES FOR OFFICIAL FOREIGN TRAVEL, PERMANENT SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE, U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, EXPENDED BETWEEN JAN. 1 AND MAR. 31, 2021.

Name of Member or employee	Date		Country	Per diem <sup>1</sup>		Transportation		Other purposes		Total	
	Arrival	Departure		Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>	Foreign currency	U.S. dollar equivalent or U.S. currency <sup>2</sup>

#### HOUSE COMMITTEES

Please Note: If there were no expenditures during the calendar quarter noted above, please check the box at right to so indicate and return. ☐

<sup>1</sup> Per diem constitutes lodging and meals.

<sup>2</sup> If foreign currency is used, enter U.S. dollar equivalent; if U.S. currency is used, enter amount expended.

<sup>3</sup> Military air transportation.